



Finnish Maritime Administration

BULLETIN NO. 7/12.4.1999

SHIPBORNE RADIO EQUIPMENT

The Finnish Maritime Administration (FMA) has amended Annex I and II to its Decision of 24 January 1992 on the Application of Section 3 of the Decree on Shipborne Radio Equipment (31/1992).

The amendments enter into force on 15 April 1999. They relate predominantly to the qualifications and new certificates of radio personnel of ships surveyed for trading areas II and III in domestic trade and of radio personnel of fishing vessels.

The Decree on Shipborne Radio Equipment, FMA's Decision on the Application of Section 3 of the Decree and an outline of the GMDSS system have been published in FMA's Bulletin No.

14/1.7.1996. Annex I and II to the Decision, as amended, and the other amendments relating to the qualifications and certification of radio personnel are appended. The annexes are paged according to Bulletin No. 14/1.7.1996. The sections amended are marked with the No. and date of amendment.

In addition, notice is given that an International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue Manual (IAMSAR) has been published. The manual consists of three volumes. All ships engaged on international voyages shall carry volume III of the manual (IAMSAR Manual, Volume III, Mobile Facilities, sales number IMO-962 E) aboard.

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DECISION ON THE APPLICATION OF SECTION 3 OF THE DECREE ON SHIPBORNE RADIO EQUIPMENT 24 Jan. 1992, No. 1/30/92

ANNEX 1 (partly amended by Decision No. 2/30/99, 12 April 1999)

CARGO SHIPS OF LESS THAN 300 GROSS TONNAGE ENGAGED ON INTERNATIONAL VOYAGES

Basic equipment

1. A VHF DSC radio installation, a dedicated DSC watchkeeping facility (channel 70), channel 16 and a sufficient number of channels for general radiocommunications;
2. a 406 MHz or 1.6 GHz EPIRB *)**);
3. a radar transponder (SART **));
4. a NAVTEX receiver, if the ship is operating in an area in which NAVTEX service is provided. In other areas the ship must be capable of receiving warnings through INMARSAT EGC or HF NBDP;
5. two (2) portable VHF radio apparatus with at least channel 16 and/or channels 15 and 17 for use in survival craft;
6. (revoked by Decision No. 2/30/99, 12 April 1999)
7. a 9 GHz radar.

*) Not in sea area A4 (1.6 GHz)

**) In sea area A1 this requirement may be fulfilled by a VHF EPIRB with a radar transponder.

Requirements for additional equipment by sea area

Sea area A1

The basic equipment is sufficient. A two-tone generator (TTG) is not required in sea area A1.

Sea area A2 (in addition to the basic equipment)

An MF DSC radio installation, a dedicated DSC watchkeeping facility on the frequency 2,187.5 kHz, the frequency 2,182 kHz and a sufficient number of frequencies for general radiocommunications.

Sea area A3 (in addition to the basic equipment)

ALTERNATIVE A

- 1 An INMARSAT SES (minimum requirement: telex communications) and

- 2 an MF DSC radio installation, a dedicated DSC watchkeeping facility on the frequency 2,187.5 kHz, the frequency 2,182 kHz and, in addition, the frequency 4,125 kHz for ship-to-aircraft communication.

ALTERNATIVE B

An MF/HF DSC radio installation, a dedicated DSC watchkeeping facility on the frequencies 2,187.5 kHz and 8,414.5 kHz and, simultaneously, on one of the frequencies 4,207.5, 6,312, 12,577 or 16,804.5 kHz (a scanning receiver may be used), the frequency 2,182 kHz and a sufficient number of frequencies for general radiocommunications.

Sea area A4 (in addition to the basic equipment)

An MF/HF DSC radio installation, a dedicated DSC watchkeeping facility on the frequencies 2,187.5 kHz and 8,414.5 kHz and, simultaneously, on one of the frequencies 4,207.5, 6,312, 12,577 or 16,804.5 kHz (a scanner may be used), the frequency 2,182 kHz and a sufficient number of frequencies for general radiocommunications.

Sources of energy (amended by Decision No. 2/30/99, 12 April 1999)

In the event of failure of the ship's main source of electrical power, the following equipment shall be operated by another source for a period of at least six hours:

- 1 the VHF DSC radio installation and the DSC watchkeeping facility;
- 2 the MF DSC radio installation and the DSC watchkeeping facility;
- 3 the MF/HF DSC radio installation and the DSC watchkeeping facility; and
- 4 the INMARSAT ship earth station (SES).

The source of electrical power shall be installed and stowed in such a location that malfunction (e.g. of the charger) does not make it inoperative and that, for instance, a fire in the engine room does not destroy it.

Watches (amended by Decision No. 2/30/99, 12 April 1999)

Every ship, while at sea, shall be capable of maintaining a continuous watch

- 1 on the DSC frequencies mentioned above and on VHF channel 70;
- 2 on the INMARSAT ship earth station (SES); and
- 3 on the NAVTEX, INMARSAT EGC or HF NBDP receiver.

Until 1 February 2005 a watch shall also be maintained on VHF channel 16.

Ensuring the availability of the equipment

The availability of the equipment is ensured

- 1 by using duplication of specific apparatus or
- 2 by using shore-based maintenance (maintenance agreement).

The Finnish Maritime Administration shall be notified in writing about the method chosen.

Surveys

- 1 Initial survey (new radio installations)
- 2 Periodical survey
 - .1 Ships with a valid maintenance agreement may be exempted from periodical surveys.
 - .2 The radio installations of other ships shall be surveyed at intervals of two years (\pm 3 months).

Mandatory ship documentation (amended by Decision No. 2/30/99, 12 April 1999)

- 1 Radio licence;
- 2 Operator's certificate (depending on the trading area, either GOC or ROC);
- 3 Radio log;
- 4 List of Call Signs etc. (ITU List VIIA)*);
- 5 List of Coast Stations (the list will include information on GMDSS coast stations as soon as Administrations inform ITU about them) *);
- 6 List of Ship Stations *);
- 7 Manual for Maritime Mobile etc. (blue book);
- 8 Merchant Ship Search and Rescue Manual (MERSAR);
- 9 The 1988 amendments (GMDSS) to the 1974 SOLAS Convention; and
- 10 List of Radiodetermination and Special Service Stations (all ships engaged on international voyages);
- 11 International Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue Manual, Volume III (IAMSAR Manual, Volume III, Mobile Facilities)

Schedule (amended by Decision No. 2/30/99, 12 April 1999)

All ships:

- 1 The MF radio installation;
- 2 The EPIRB, NAVTEX (or duplicating equipment) and the portable radiotelephone apparatus for survival craft (VHF);
- 3 The 9 GHz radar and the SART;
- 4 The MF DSC equipment, MF/HF DSC equipment or INMARSAT SES;
- 5 The VHF DSC equipment.

*) or equivalent Admiralty (UK) publications.

DECISION ON THE APPLICATION OF SECTION 3 OF THE DECREE ON SHIPBORNE RADIO EQUIPMENT 24 Jan. 1992, No. 1/30/92

ANNEX II (wholly amended by Decision No. 7/30/96, 17 June 1996
and partly by Decision No. 2/30/99, 12 April 1999)

SHIPS ENGAGED ON DOMESTIC VOYAGES

Trading area III

Basic equipment (amended by Decision No. 2/30/99, 12 April 1999)

- 1 A VHF DSC radio installation, a dedicated DSC watchkeeping facility (channel 70), channel 16 and a sufficient number of channels for general radiocommunications;
- 2 a VHF EPIRB with a radar transponder. In lieu of the VHF EPIRB, either a 406 MHz or a 1.6 GHz EPIRB and a SART or another VHF (not DSC) may be used; and
- 3 two portable VHF radiotelephone apparatus with at least channel 16 and/or 15 and 17 for use in survival craft.

Watches (amended by Decision No. 2/30/99, 12 April 1999)

While at sea, the ship shall maintain a continuous watch on VHF DSC channel 70 and, until further notice, on VHF channel 16.

Sources of energy

In the event of failure of the ship's main source of electrical power, the following radio equipment shall be operated by another source of power for a period of at least two hours:

the VHF DSC radio installation and the watchkeeping facility.

The source of electrical power shall be installed and stowed in such a location that malfunction (of e.g. the charger) does not make it inoperative and that, for instance, a fire in the engine room does not destroy it.

Ensuring the availability of the equipment

The availability of the equipment is ensured

- 1 by using duplication of the VHF radio installation or by the EPIRB; or
- 2 by using shore-based maintenance (maintenance agreement).

The Finnish Maritime Administration shall be notified in writing about the method chosen.

Surveys

- 1 Initial survey (new radio installations)
- 2 Periodical survey
 - .1 Ships with a valid maintenance agreement may be exempted from periodical surveys.
 - .2 The radio installations of other ships are surveyed at intervals of four years (± 3 months).

Mandatory ship documentation (amended by Decision No. 2/30/99, 12 April 1999)

- 1 Radio licence;
- 2 Operator's certificate (ROC or SRC);
- 3 Radio log; and
- 4 List of Lights, Finland/Radio section.

Schedule (amended by Decision No. 2/30/99, 12 April 1999)

- 1 Existing ships shall be provided with equipment in accordance with the provisions above.
- 2 New ships shall be provided with equipment in accordance with the above provisions before they are put in service.

Trading area II**Basic equipment**

- 1 A VHF DSC radio installation, a dedicated DSC watchkeeping facility (channel 70), channel 16 and a sufficient number of channels for general radiocommunications; and;
- 2 two portable VHF radiotelephone apparatus with at least channel 16 and/or 15 and 17 for use in survival craft.

Watches (amended by Decision No. 2/30/99, 12 April 1999)

While at sea, the ship shall maintain a continuous watch on VHF DSC channel 70 and, until further notice, on VHF channel 16.

Sources of energy

In the event of failure of the ship's main source of electrical power, the following radio equipment shall be operated by another source of power for a period of at least one hour:

the VHF DSC radio installation and the watchkeeping facility.

The source of electrical power shall be installed and stowed in such a location that malfunction (of e.g. the charger) does not make it inoperative and that, for instance, a fire in the engine room does not destroy it.

Ensuring the availability of the equipment

The availability of the equipment is ensured

- 1 by using duplication of the VHF radio installation; or
- 2 by using shore-based maintenance (maintenance agreement).

The Finnish Maritime Administration shall be notified in writing about the method chosen.

Surveys

- 1 Initial survey (new radio installation)
- 2 Periodical survey
 - .1 Ships with a valid maintenance agreement may be exempted from periodical surveys;
 - .2 The radio installations of other ships are surveyed at intervals of four years (± 3 months).

Mandatory ship documentation (amended by Decision No. 2/30/99, 12 April 1999)

- 1 Radio licence;
- 2 Operator's certificate (ROC or SRC);
- 3 Radio log; and
- 4 List of Lights, Finland/Radio section.

Schedule (amended by Decision No. 2/30/99, 12 April 1999)

- 1 Ships shall forthwith be provided with a VHF radio installation and with two portable radiotelephone apparatus for survival craft.
- 2 Ships shall, in addition, be provided with VHF DSC equipment and a DSC watchkeeping facility.

Trading area I (applies to ships, excl. unmanned barges, of more than 15 m in length (as defined in the Tonnage Certificate))

Basic equipment

- 1 A VHF radio installation with channel 16 and a sufficient number of channels for general radiocommunications; and
- 2 two portable VHF radiotelephone apparatus with at least channel 16 and/or 15 and 17 for use in survival craft (applies to passenger ships only).

Watches

While at sea, the ship shall maintain a continuous watch on channel 16.

Sources of energy

In the event of failure of the ship's main source of electrical power, the following radio equipment shall be operated by another source of power for a period of at least one hour:

the VHF radio installation.

The source of electrical power shall be installed and stowed in such a location that malfunction (of e.g. the charger) does not make it inoperative and that, for instance, a fire in the engine room does not destroy it.

Ensuring the availability of the equipment

The availability of the equipment is ensured

- 1 by using duplication of the VHF radio installation; or
- 2 by using shore-based maintenance (maintenance agreement).

The Finnish Maritime Administration shall be notified in writing about the method chosen.

Surveys

- 1 Initial survey (new radio installations)
- 2 Periodical survey
 - .1 Ships with a valid maintenance agreement may be exempted from periodical surveys;
 - .2 The radio installations of other ships are surveyed at intervals of four years (± 3 months).

Mandatory ship documentation (amended by Decision No. 2/30/99, 12 April 1999)

- 1 Radio licence;
- 2 Operator's certificate (VHF or SRC); and
- 3 Radio log.

Schedule (amended by Decision No. 2/30/99, 12 April 1999)

- 1 The ships shall be provided with a VHF radio installation.
- 2 Passenger ships shall, in addition, be provided with a portable VHF radiotelephone apparatus.

Qualifications of radio personnel

- 7 (amended by Decision 2/30/99, 12 April 1999) One person on board a ship engaged on domestic voyages, a hired boat with a permanent crew or on a pleasure craft shall hold the certificate pertaining to the ship's radio equipment, i.e. a ROC or a SRC.
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- 9 (added by Decision 2/30/99, 12 April 1999) One person on board a new fishing vessel of 24 m in length and over shall hold a ROC, if the vessel is engaged on voyages in sea area A1. If the vessel is engaged on voyages in sea area A2, A3 or A4, one person on board shall hold a GOC.

One person on board an existing fishing vessel of less than 45 m in length shall hold a ROC or a SRC, if the vessel is engaged on voyages in sea area A1 (VHF range). If the vessel is engaged on voyages beyond sea area A1, one person on board shall hold a GOC or a LRC. One person on board an existing fishing vessel of 45 m in length and over shall hold a ROC, if the vessel is engaged in sea area A1. If the vessel is engaged on voyages beyond sea area A1, one person on board shall hold a GOC.

One person on board an existing fishing vessel engaged on voyages beyond the Baltic Sea area shall hold a GOC.

10. NB. Council Directive 98/18/EC on safety rules and standards for passenger ships will be brought into force by decree in the near future. If it is provided by decree that the GMDSS requirements shall be met in their entirety, it is possible that radio personnel aboard passenger ships surveyed for domestic trade, trading areas II and III, will be required to hold at least a ROC.
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GOC AND ROC CERTIFICATION

(amended by Decision 2/30/99, 12 April 1999)

A GOC is issued to a person who has attended a GOC course and passed a GOC examination. A certificate may also be issued solely on the basis of the examination.

The validity of the GOC and ROC certificates is controlled at intervals of five years. When renewing the actual Certificate of Competency, an endorsement issued by the Telecommunications Administration Centre shall be attached to the application.

Applications for GOC and ROC endorsements shall be submitted to the Telecommunications Administration Centre. A certificate to the effect that the applicant has completed at least 12 months of seagoing service during the preceding five years and to the effect that he has regularly used the DSC (Digital Selective Call) equipment mentioned in the (GOC or ROC) certificate (excerpts from the radio journal etc.) shall be enclosed.

Alternatively, the applicant shall demonstrate, in a manner approved by the Telecommunications Administration Centre, that he is familiar with the use of the DSC equipment.

List of certificates

GOC	General Operator's Certificate
ROC	Restricted Operator's Certificate
LRC	Long Range Certificate
SRC	Short Range Certificate